



Newsletter 2Term 1
Friday 20th September 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

The term is now in full swing and it has been great to see the children settling in to their new classes. We recognise that this is a lot of change, and for some children it has been more difficult, so we are working with families to help with transition. If you have any concerns about your child then please arrange to meet with their class teacher to discuss further.

Next Friday we have our MacMillan Coffee afternoon at 2:30p.m, which you are all welcome to. The staff will be making cakes but all donations are very welcome too. Many of our families and staff have benefitted from the work that Macmillan do so in buying a cake or coffee we hope to raise as much as we can.

Congratulations to Cherry Class who had the highest attendance percentage over the last 2 weeks, well done!



DATES FOR YOR DIARIES

SEPTEMBER 2024	
Thursday 26 th	Individual School Photographs
Friday 27 th	MacMillan Coffee Afternoon 2.30pm
Monday 30 th	Poetry finalists perform in worship
OCTOBER 2024	
Thursday 3 rd	Poetry Competition at KAR
Friday 4 th	INSET Day
Monday 9 th	Year 6 Safety in Action
Tuesday 8 th	Reception Class appear in the Argus First Class Supplement
Thursday 10 th	World Mental Health Day
Friday 11 th	Open Morning for EYFS 2025 Parent Forum 2.15pm
Friday 18 th	Harvest Festival
Tuesday 22 nd	Beech and Holly to Glyndebourne
	Parents' Evening
Thursday 24 th	Parents' Evening
Friday 25 th	End of Term 1

(also available at <https://firleprimary.eschools.co.uk/>)

Golden Book



Week commencing 9th September

PIPS Dotty and Romy for persevering and trying so hard to listen to and follow instructions in Pips class. You are both trying so hard and I'm really proud of all of you for being so fabulous, smiley and amazing!

CHERRY Finn has worked so hard this week. Always showing that he is ready to learn and trying his hardest. He has been trying to help his friends to stay calm
Fred has been a real role model to his class this week. He has been ready to learn, has persevered and is always ready for a challenge.

BEECH Phoenix for his aspiration in his learning this week. Phoenix has settled into his year 4 role amazingly. He has come into school enthusiastic and ready to learn each morning and has pushed himself in his learning!

Aida for her aspiration in her learning! Aida has already shown her brilliant attitude to learning and I look forward to seeing where this year takes her. Well done Aida!

HOLLY Izzy for her amazing attitude to learning. She works hard to ensure that she completes her work accurately and to the best of her ability.

Torren for her aspirational learning across the curriculum. She has risen to the challenge of year 5, keeping up with the pace whilst producing some excellent work.

Week commencing 9th September

PIPS Bluebell is trying so hard and is determined to recognise all the new sounds we are learning
Ava shows such amazing kindness and sharing with friends, well done.

All of Pips are doing so well with persevering at taking turns and sharing. We are all trying to remember to pen doors for friends and grown ups and say 'after you' and 'thank you'

CHERRY Elizabeth- you have been so brave and resilient this week. I am so proud of how you have been able to talk about your feelings to adults and we hope you have a very happy birthday!

Andrius-You have been working so hard on your phonics this weekend and have shown such resilience when tackling new sounds and trickier spellings, well done.

BEECH David for showing perseverance and courage over the last few days. David is a really valued member of Beech Class and it has been so warming to see his smile in the afternoon once he is feeling more settled in class. Well done David- keep being amazing.

Eve for her wonderful creative writing this week as well as her maths! She has been working towards writing a stormy beach setting description and has shown real aspiration when choosing vocabulary. In her maths it has been wonderful to see Eve grow in confidence and use the concrete resources to represent numbers up to 10 000. Well done Eve!

HOLLY Abeni and Torren for really embracing our school value of 'Working Together'. They produced a fantastic sequence in our gymnastics lesson, performing some very tricky partner balances.

BREAKFAST CLUB

Unfortunately, we have not enough interest in a breakfast club to make it viable, so we won't be going ahead with this at this time

SCHOOL PHOTOS



The individual school photos take place next **Thursday 26th September** and the order forms will be sent home shortly afterwards. We are allowing sibling photos again this year, which will be done before school from 8:15am, in the school library. Please wait outside the office and you will be called in to the library when the photographer is ready for you.

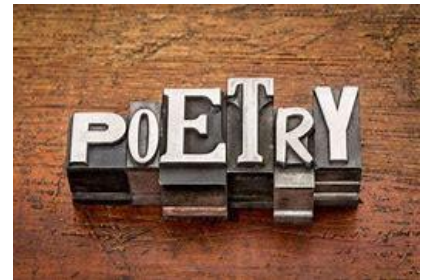
AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

It is such a shame that despite enough interest the Outdoors Project cannot provide us with an after-school club. Many thanks to all those parents who registered their interest.

POETRY COMPETITION

We are currently running a poetry reading competition for years 1-6. The children have chosen from a selection of poems in the categories, KS1, Lower KS2, and Upper KS2. All the children will learn at least a part of one of the poems but if they want to be in the competition they will need to be able to recite the whole poem as a performance.

They will share what they can recite in class. If they do not want to recite it in front of the class, they can share it in smaller groups or with a member of staff. Those that want to enter the competition will compete in class and then the finalists from each class will be heard in our whole school assembly on Monday 30th September. From this, a finalist will be selected to go to the finals at Kings Academy Ringmer on the afternoon of **Thursday 3rd October**. This competition is between the local primary schools and is to promote the reading of poetry and develop skills in memorising text.



PARENT FORUM

Our first parent forum of this academic year is on **Friday 11th October** at **2.15pm** and will be related to school improvements for this academic year. Everybody is welcome to attend and it will be a chance for open discussion and to put your views forward. We are also happy to take requests for parent forums of matters that you would like to raise. This can be done via an email to the office or in person to a member of staff.

SAFEGUARDING

At Firle Church of England Primary School, safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is everyone's responsibility and our top priority. All professionals who come in to contact with children and their families have a role to play. Within school, we have a number of staff members who are responsible or leading on child protection and welfare. We would like take this opportunity to remind you of who to contact if you have a welfare concern about a child. If you are worried about a child's safety, please do not hesitate to contact any of the Designated Safeguarding Lead staff members straight away.

The following members of staff are Designated Safeguarding Leads for Laughton School:

Mrs Vicki Brown - Lead DSL

Mrs Rachel West- Lead DSL

Ms Clare Ness- Deputy DSL

Mrs Natalie Bayliss is our safeguarding governor.

These members of staff can be contacted via the school office- firleoffice@oaktreefederation.co.uk or by telephone on 01273 858260.

WHAT'S ON PARENTING GUIDE

The parenting team are excited to share with you the latest What's On Parenting Guide for October to December 2024. The attached guide is packed with information on our upcoming webinars and online groups.

EASY FUNDRAISING

Please join the easyfundraising scheme. Easyfundraising partners with over 7,000 brands will donate part of what you spend to our school. It won't cost you any extra. Brands pay them a

commission because when you start your shop from the easyfundraising website or app, they can see that they sent you to them. If you make a purchase, a commission is generated, and they turn that into a donation - magic! <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/create-an-account/>

PE LESSONS

Well done everyone who made it into school on their PE days wearing their kit! Class PE days are as follows:

Holly- Monday and Wednesday

Beech- Tuesday and Friday

Cherry/Pips- Tuesday and Thursday



MACMILLAN COFFEE AFTERNOON

This year we will be holding our MacMillan Coffee afternoon at 2.30pm on Friday 27th September. We will provide the tea and coffee and staff will provide cakes but any donations of cakes and biscuits will be gratefully accepted too. If you are able to help on the day please come to school at 2.15pm in time to set up. Many thanks

ASDA CASHPOT FUNDRAISING

If you shop at ASDA and have an ASDA Rewards App, you can now raise funds for our school every time you scan. All you need to do is the following:

1. Download and sign up to the Asda Rewards App
2. Opt into the Cashpot for Schools campaign and select 'Firle Church of England Primary School'
3. Shop in Store across Asda and George, or online at Asda.com
4. Asda will donate a percentage of your shop total to our school each time you shop and scan
5. Asda does the rest!



The money raised will be donated through Parentkind to our school to spend on what we need the most. This won't affect your own cash pot you earn. Once opted in and selected a school, ASDA will add £1 to our school Cashpot to help us get started and an additional

SUPPORT AND FREE SCHOOL MEALS

We are aware that the rising cost of living may have affected many of our families in terms of jobs and money coming in. We are here to offer support if anyone needs anything so please just ask. You can contact the school office and any help or advice can be given in confidence.

Some of you may be eligible for free school meals. This means that your child can receive a free meal at school. You can do this if you receive any of the following benefits:

- [Universal Credit - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/universal-credit) (with an annual household income below £7,400 after tax, not including other benefits).
- [Income Support - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/income-support)
- [Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance \(JSA\) - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/income-based-jobseekers-allowance)
- [Income-based Employment and Support Allowance \(ESA\) - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/income-based-employment-and-support-allowance)
- [Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999 - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/support-under-part-vi-of-the-immigration-and-asylum-act-1999)
- [The Guaranteed element of State Pension Credit - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/the-guaranteed-element-of-state-pension-credit)
- [Child Tax Credit - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/child-tax-credit) (with an annual household income less than £16,190).
- [Working Tax Credit run-on](https://www.gov.uk/working-tax-credit) (paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit). Anyone who gets Working Tax Credit itself, won't get free school meals.

In addition, to minimise the impact of the rollout of Universal Credit, pupils are currently protected against losing their benefits-related free school meals. This applies when the parental earnings rise above the threshold of £7400 per year.

Once Universal Credit is fully rolled out (planned for March 2025) any existing pupil whose parent no longer meets the eligibility criteria at that point will continue to receive free school meals until the end of their current phase of education, i.e. primary or secondary.

Children must be in school both before and after lunchtime to qualify for free school meals.

The school also receives additional Pupil Premium funding to support your child in their learning and this can be used to help with resources, uniform, trips e.t.c.

See link for further information and the application form.

<https://www.eastsussex.gov.uk/educationandlearning/schools/school-life/meals/free/>

Please also use the following link which contain information on cost of living support.

<https://www.eastsussex.gov.uk/community/cost-of-living-support>

6. £50 after at least one customer shops and scans their Rewards app.

EAST SUSSEX FAMILY HUB

The new East Sussex Family Hub offers a physical and a virtual space so that everyone in the family has access to support for a wide range of issues, enabling them to take part in new activities, to ask questions and to meet other families from the community.

There are details of a wide range of free support on offer, including 3P parenting workshops and a number of different parent and carer support groups, details of free activities and what's on in your local area.

<https://familyhubs.eastsussex.gov.uk/>

CHANGING WEATHER

Now that the weather is changing, please can we remind you that all children should have a coat in school every day.



OPEN SESSIONS

We are having the first of our Open Sessions for parents and carers with children due to start school in September 2025 on **Thursday 10th October 2024 at 9.15am**. So that we can monitor numbers, please can you book with the school office on 01273 858260 or email firleoffice@oaktreefederation.co.uk where you will also need to confirm who will be attending with you. The session will last a maximum of 45 minutes, and you will have the opportunity to meet with the senior leadership team.

Please spread the word if you know anyone who has a child due to start school next year. The other Open Day dates are on **Monday 11th November 2024 (pm)** and **Friday 10th January 2025 (am)**.

The ESCC closing date for applications is **15th January 2025**.

SECONDARY SCHOOL ADMISSIONS

If your child is due to start secondary school in September 2025 you will soon receive a leaflet about how to apply. Information can also be found on;

https://www.eastsussex.gov.uk/educationandlearning/schools/admissions/secondary_school/

The closing date for secondary school admissions close on **Thursday 31st October**.

THE PARENT PACT

The Parent Pact is live - now let's make it take off in your area! 🚀🚀🚀

Our new online Parent Pact is here - and we're embarrassingly excited about it 😊.

We've made a simple online tool that enables you to stand up and be counted in your choice to wait to give your child a smartphone - and see how many others in your school and region are doing the same. Every region in the UK has their own bespoke Parent Pact, because we know the collective action trap we're in can only be solved by parents in local communities committing to take action - together.

We want this to spread way beyond our existing community so please sign it yourselves then share it far and wide - it takes just 30 seconds and might just change the world ;)

parentpact.smartphonefreechildhood.co.uk The more of us who sign, the more powerful it becomes in shifting the social norm in your area, and we'll use the data to show the Government how much this matters to parents everywhere.

Your choice - and your voice - really is powerful 🙏

Kind regards, Mrs Rachel West and Mrs Vicki Brown